

Washington State

**GOVERNOR'S
ADVISORY COUNCIL
ON HISTORIC
PRESERVATION**

158th Meeting – Spokane



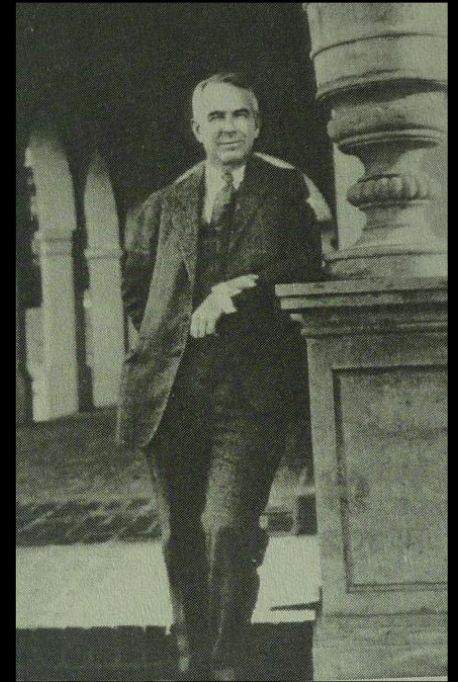
Spokane Park System MPD



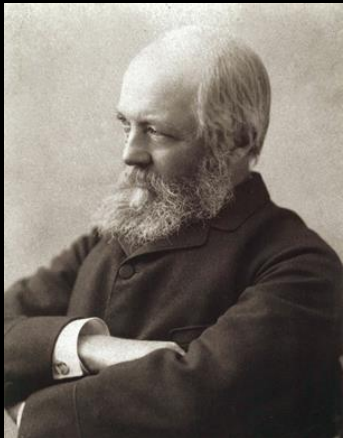
Frederick Law Olmsted Jr.



John C. Olmsted



Frederick Dawson



Charles Brothus
Landscape Architects
Brookline - Mass - Sept. 30, 1909.

Frederick Law Olmsted Sr.



[illegible]

THIRD AVE

FIFTH AVE

NINTH AVE

PROPOSED LAKE

LIBERTY PARK
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
PLANTING PLAN

Scale: 1" = 100'

1/4" = 100'

1/8" = 100'

1/16" = 100'

1/32" = 100'

1/64" = 100'

1/128" = 100'

1/256" = 100'

1/512" = 100'

1/1024" = 100'

1/2048" = 100'

1/4096" = 100'

1/8192" = 100'

1/16384" = 100'

1/32768" = 100'

1/65536" = 100'

1/131072" = 100'

1/262144" = 100'

1/524288" = 100'

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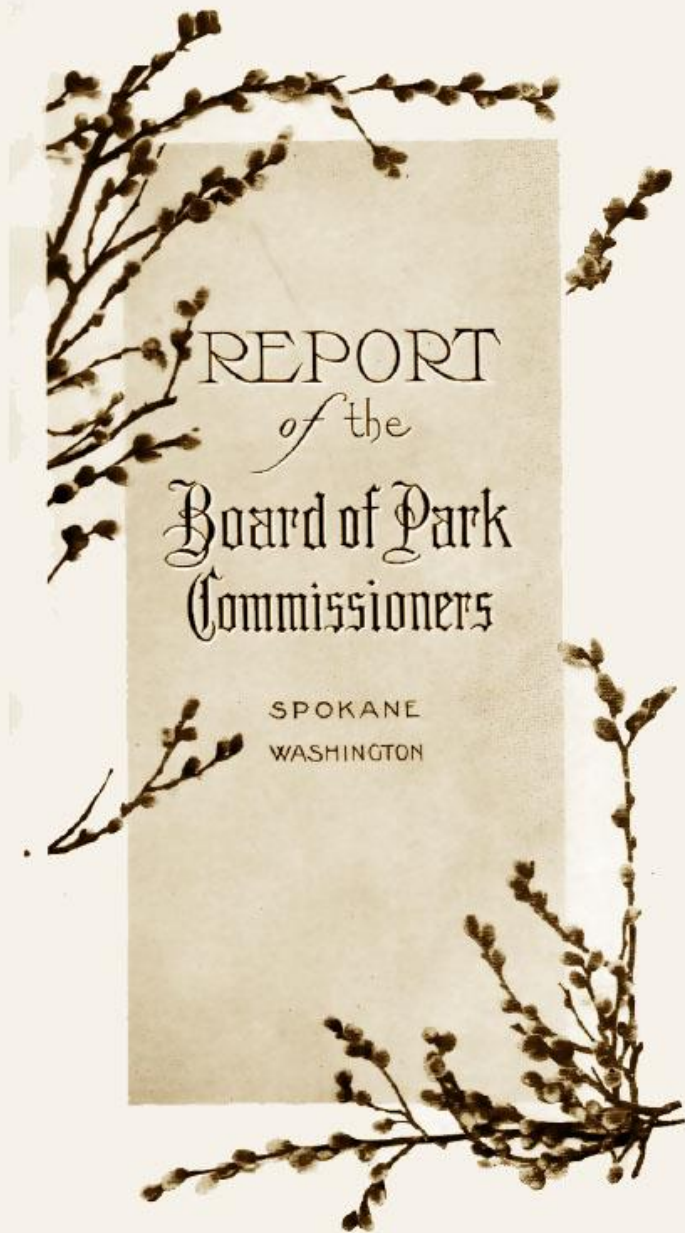
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Olmsted Report
- April 1908

They should have a secretary constantly on the watch for every possible opportunity to notify any official or department of the city government contemplating, ordering or doing anything the appearance of which is a matter of public concern, to confer with the art commission.

Such a commission should pass upon the plans for all public buildings, bridges, street lamps and other street fixtures, all statues, fountains and other monuments, temporary street decorations, and all interior decoration and furnishing of public buildings, etc. They should pass upon the suitability of architects proposed to be employed by city officials for public work or recommend architects, sculptors, decorators and the like. In case architectural competitions are proposed for public buildings, the art commission should draw up the terms of the competition and report their recommendations as to the designs submitted.

While the ultimate decision as to the terms and conditions for the erection of railroad bridges and other constructions commonly regarded as solely matters of civil engineering, must be determined by the city government, yet the Council should invariably bring the art commission into consultation at all stages of the negotiations as to such structures and should as far as possible heed their recommendations in matters of appearance.

It would be almost essential that the art commission should have at least one architect upon it from some other city than Spokane and of such recognized high standing in his profession as to give every possible assurance of absence of such bias as might exist in the case of local members of the commission having social relations with the parties interested or having perhaps some professional rivalry with the architect of the plans to be judged. If it is not thought feasible to have an eminent architect from New York or Chicago or some other large city on the art commission, the practice might be to refer important cases to a special committee of the Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Such an art commission, after its functions had become known, and if its decisions proved to be such as to command respect, might well be called in to arrange and decide competitions for churches and other semi-public buildings. The park commission would not doubt often have occasion to consult such a commission.

In conclusion, some remarks seem called for upon the great aggregate extent of parks proposed and upon the financial aspect of the subject.

The first impression of most business men of Spokane, competent to pass judgment on matters affecting the management of the city, will be what amount of land should the city acquire.

The matter is important. It certainly ought to be patiently and thoroughly investigated and discussed.

Study of the subject of park areas has led experts to announce as a handy "Rule of thumb" that the subdivided portions of cities ought to have neighborhood parks if possible not more than half a mile from any residence and that this area ought to be equal to 5 per cent of the area of each division of the city. Probably in no city are the parks so distributed because too often the acquisition of parks is left until the only available land is far from the densely populated districts of the city. The only comparisons of park areas between different cities that area usually made are those of the number of inhabitants to one acre of park.

The park areas of certain cities best equipped with parks in 1902-3 were as follows:

1. Boston (Metropolitan District).....	12,878 acres
2. New York.....	8,074 acres
3. Los Angeles.....	3,737 acres
4. Newark.....	3,548 acres
5. Philadelphia.....	3,503 acres
6. San Francisco.....	3,411 acres
7. Chicago.....	3,174 acres
8. Washington.....	2,911 acres
9. Hartford.....	1,190 acres

The length of boulevards in certain cities in 1902-3 were as follows:

1. New York.....	61 miles
2. Chicago.....	48 miles
3. New Orleans.....	41 miles
4. Minneapolis.....	37 miles
5. Boston.....	34 miles

The number of inhabitants to each acre of park in certain cities in 1903 was as follows:

	Inhabitants per acre of park.
1. Meriden, Ct.....	25.1
2. Los Angeles.....	31.6
3. Lynn, Mass.....	34.6
4. Hartford (1900).....	67.1
5. Boston (including Metropolitan).....	78.4
6. Newark and Essex County.....	88.8
7. St. Paul.....	98.9

ther from the centre of the city and largely made up of steep rugged land very unavailable for building lots at present.

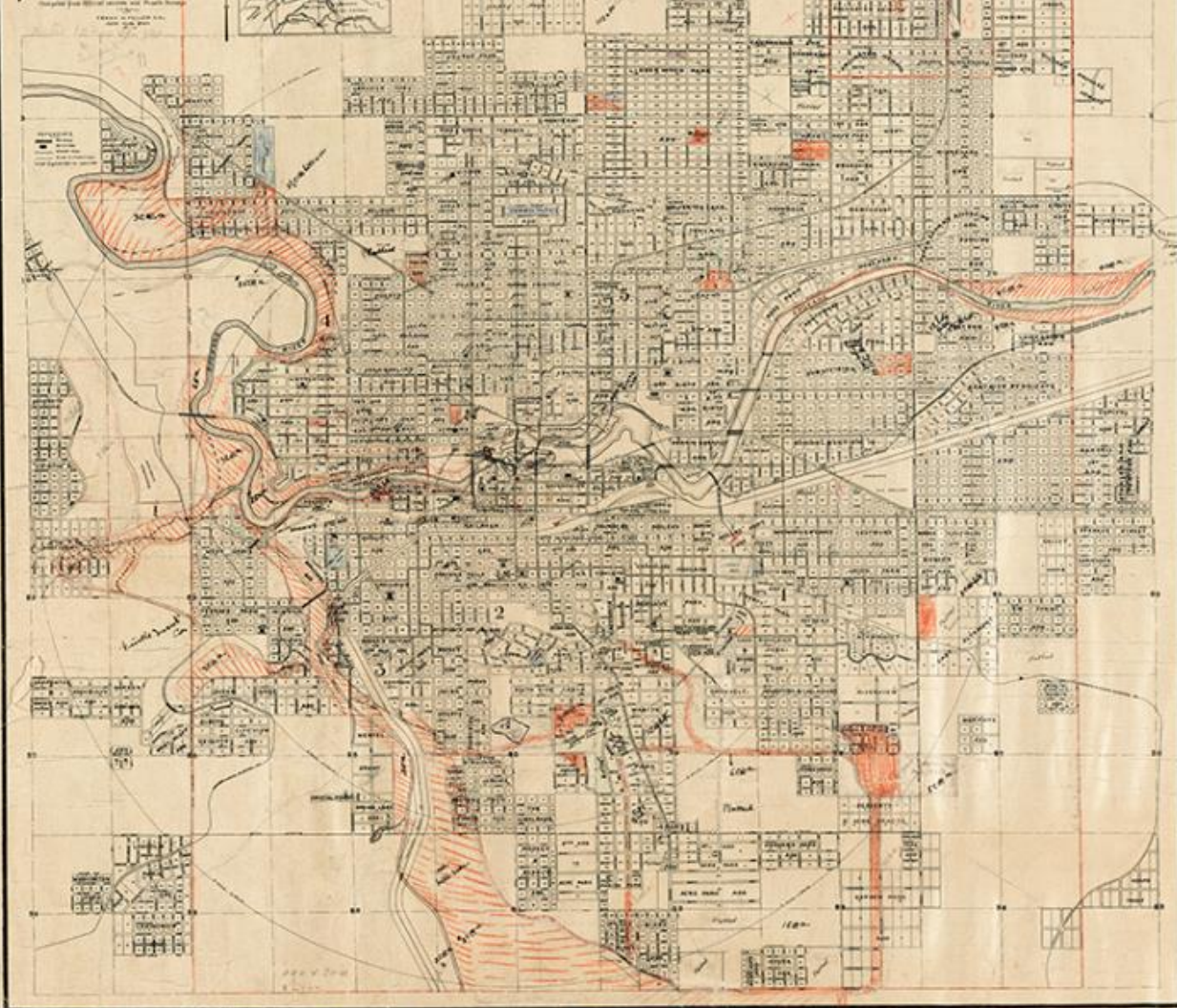
With regard to maintenance adequate data are not at hand because more or less construction work is often paid for out of the annual income of park commissions and the distinction not clearly shown in published statements. The general idea appears to be that the annual park tax should be one mill on the dollar of assessors' valuation of the city in addition to interest and sinking fund on loans. As the assessors' valuation of Spokane is \$33,500,000 this rate of park tax should yield at present \$33,500, which with the present inadequate equipment of parks and parkways would enable considerable to be done in the way of temporary and minor improvement. As this rate of park tax would only amount to 43 1/3 cents per capita it ought not to strike the citizens as an unreasonable amount to have to pay for the great advantages of parks for the health and recreation of his family nor out of proportion to the probable benefit in enhanced value to his real estate.

Respectfully,
OLMISTED BROTHERS.



Latah Bridge, High Bridge Park

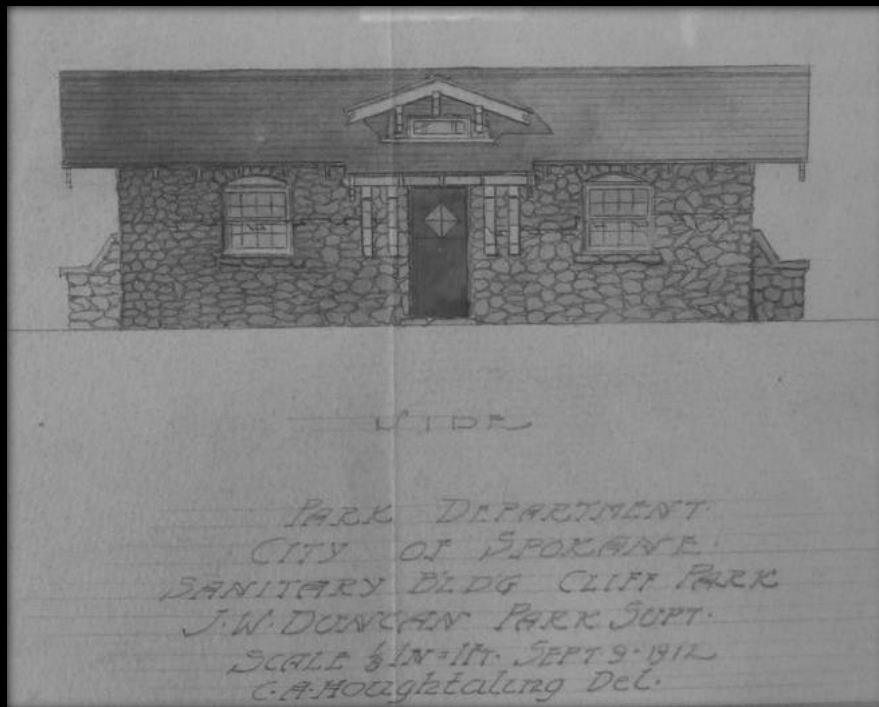
R. L. POLK & CO'S
MAP
OF THE
CITY OF
SPOKANE
WASHINGTON
1907



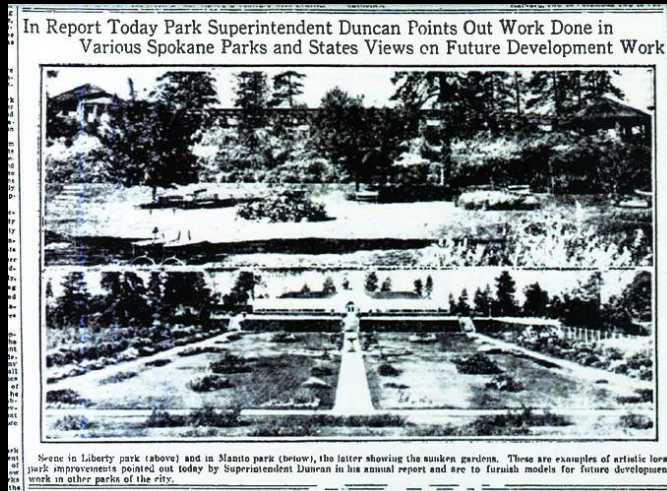
Street Guide

R. L. Polk & Co.'s
Spokane Map.

STREETS			
A	1st	2nd	3rd
B	4th	5th	6th
C	7th	8th	9th
D	10th	11th	12th
E	13th	14th	15th
F	16th	17th	18th
G	19th	20th	21st
H	22nd	23rd	24th
I	25th	26th	27th
J	28th	29th	30th
K	31st	32nd	33rd
L	34th	35th	36th
M	37th	38th	39th



Sanitary Bldg Cliff Park
 Architect: C. A. Houghtaling
 circa 1912



J.W. Duncan



Aubrey White

This could not occur in the Inland Empire, from the fact there are no extremes in temperature.

Viewed from the standpoint of utility and giving consideration for what purposes the woods of the Spokane country are used, it may be said that the time cannot be far distant when the greater part of the United States will be looking westward for its lumber and timber supplies. That the lum-

bermen and millowners are aware of this is probably best evidenced by the construction of railroads into the timber belts and that the capacity of the mills is being increased. The Inland Empire is indeed fortunate in having this asset virtually at its doors and, as each year limits the available supply, so the increased demand will enhance its value.

Spokane's Public Parks and Playgrounds

By H. J. GIBSON

Secretary Board of Park Commissioners

The public park system of Spokane, which is closely identified the movement for public play-grounds, forms an interesting and attractive feature of the city's growth and development.

The present total area of Spokane's public parks is 174.53 acres, being a per capita park area of one acre for every 444 persons, and embraces Manito Park, 55.6 acres; Coeur d'Alene Park, 9.76 acres; Corbin Park, 13 acres; Liberty Park, 24.5 acres; Cliff Park, 4 acres; Audubon Park, 31.2 acres; Stadacona Park, 1.5 acres; Lidgerwood Park, 3 acres; Mission Avenue parking, 1.77 acres.

A considerable portion of our park area is yet unimproved, yet the rapid increase in population has made the increase of our city park area and its development an absolute necessity.

At their last municipal election the citizens of Spokane adopted by a large majority vote a charter amendment creating a non-partisan Board of Park Commissioners to manage and control all the public parks of the city; and, in accordance therewith, the mayor appointed ten representative citizens to constitute the first Board of Park Commissioners. This board, serving without compensation, has directed its efforts to secure for the city the most practical management of its park finances together with a thoroughly modern system of park maintenance, improvement and extension.

For this purpose, the Board of Park Commissioners has arranged with John C. Olmsted, a public park authority of national celebrity, for the preparation and submission by him of a comprehensive plan for present and future development and extension of our city park system to cover not only present operations but also future development for probably the next twenty years. By this means, all work done and money expended will be toward the execution and completion of a carefully devised plan which will give us the best practical and artistic results.

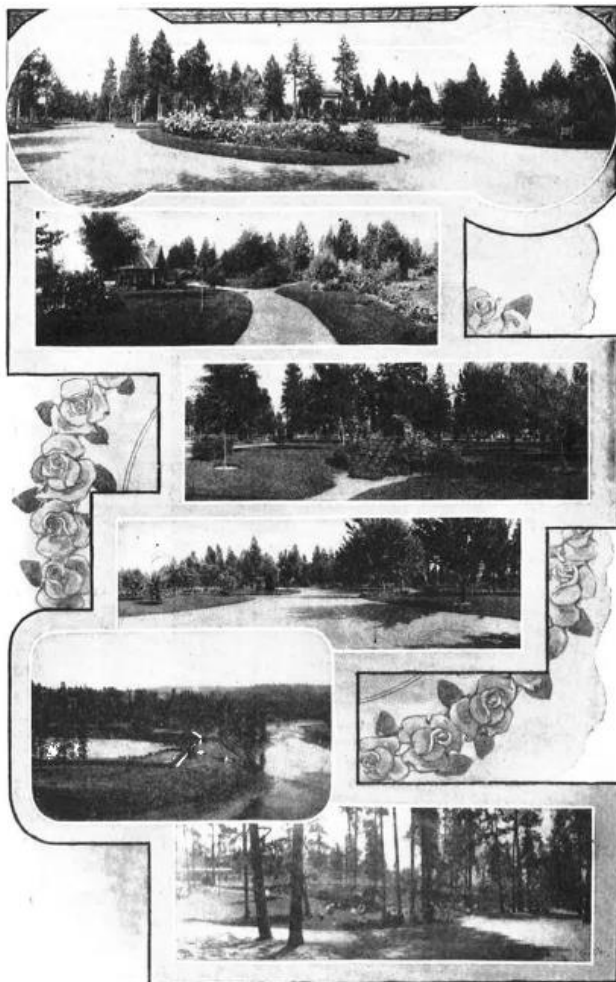
On account of our rapidly increasing urban population, the existing park areas, even

when fully improved, will be entirely inadequate to meet the needs of our city and the Park Commission is now endeavoring to provide for this contingency by making a systematic effort to secure from public spirited citizens donations of park areas in various localities to be held by the city for future development.

The enterprise and public spirit of a city is estimated largely in accordance with its civic improvements, of which the public park system is a most prominent feature. In Spokane the establishment and maintenance of public parks have appreciated the value of property in their localities as much or more than any other form of municipal improvement. A number of our public-spirited citizens have materially assisted the Park Commission in its endeavor to secure more park area, by generous offers of donations of tracts adapted to future park development.

The installation and maintenance of a system of public playgrounds, recently established in Spokane through the initiative and energy of the city beautiful committee of our 150,000 Club, is another interesting and significant feature of Spokane's development and is receiving the active support of our citizens who realize the great present and future benefits resulting therefrom. Our public playgrounds are in charge of a committee of fifteen citizens, appointed by the mayor, from whom a working organization of nine trustees in addition to the mayor, the chairman of school board and the chairman of the park board, who are ex-officio members, is selected.

At present two public playgrounds are in operation, sustained by donations of material and equipment and through donations from several of our merchants of a certain percentage of the profits on various lines of merchandise, to be given by them for a term of years. Others will undoubtedly lend their assistance to the good work and thus give assurance of the development of the public play-ground system to an extent commensurate with its importance.



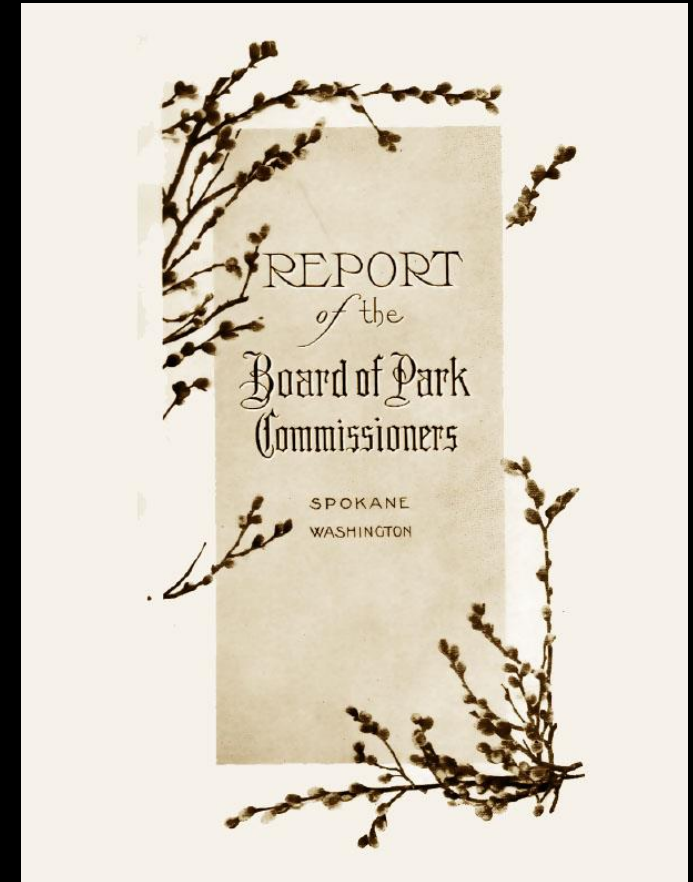
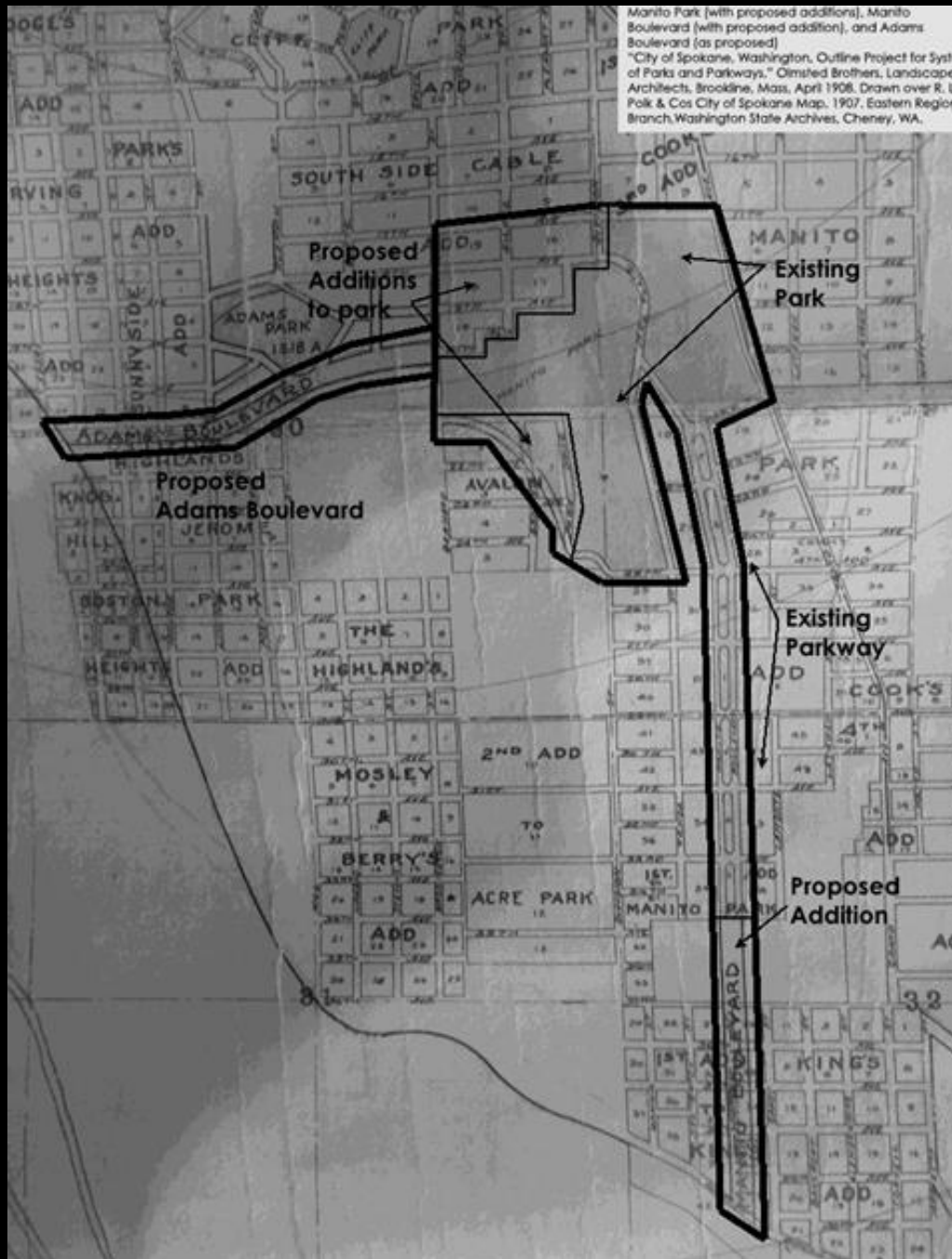
Scenes in the parks of Spokane, of which the citizens are proud.



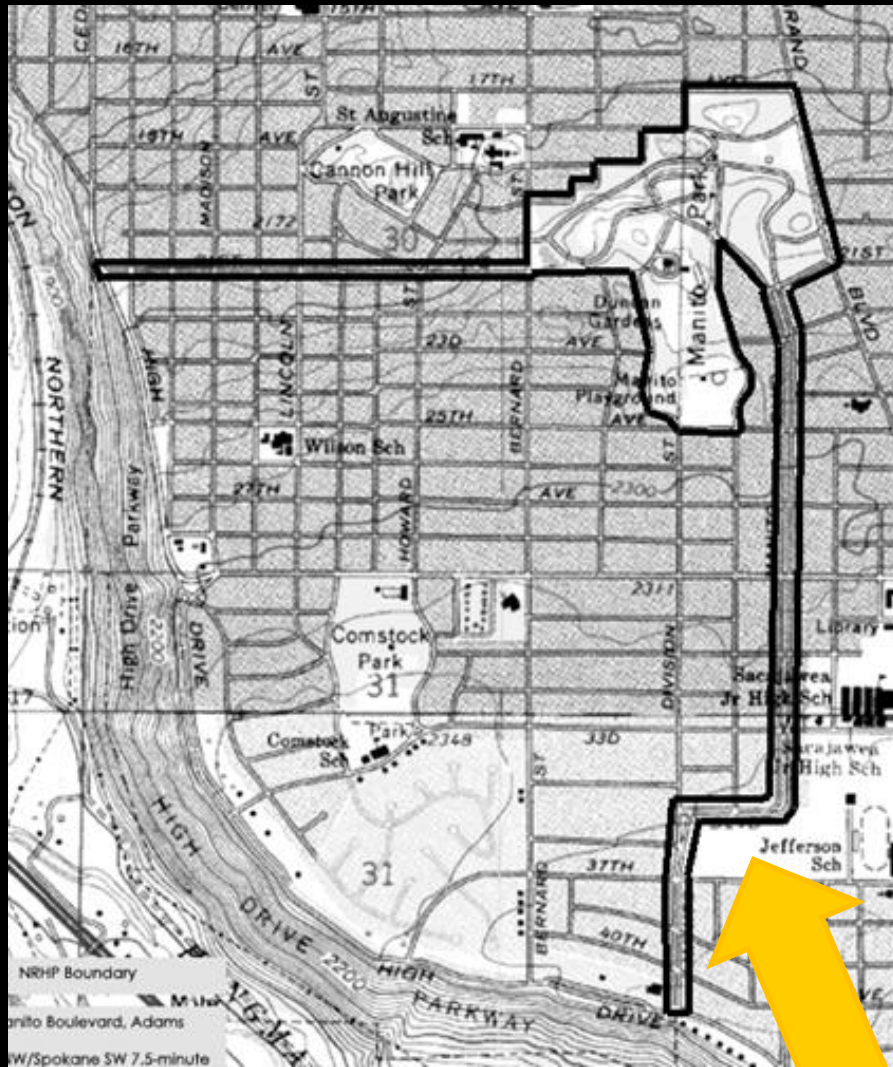
Manito Park, Manito Blvd & Adams Blvd







Olmsted Report
 Proposed – Manito Park
 - April 1908



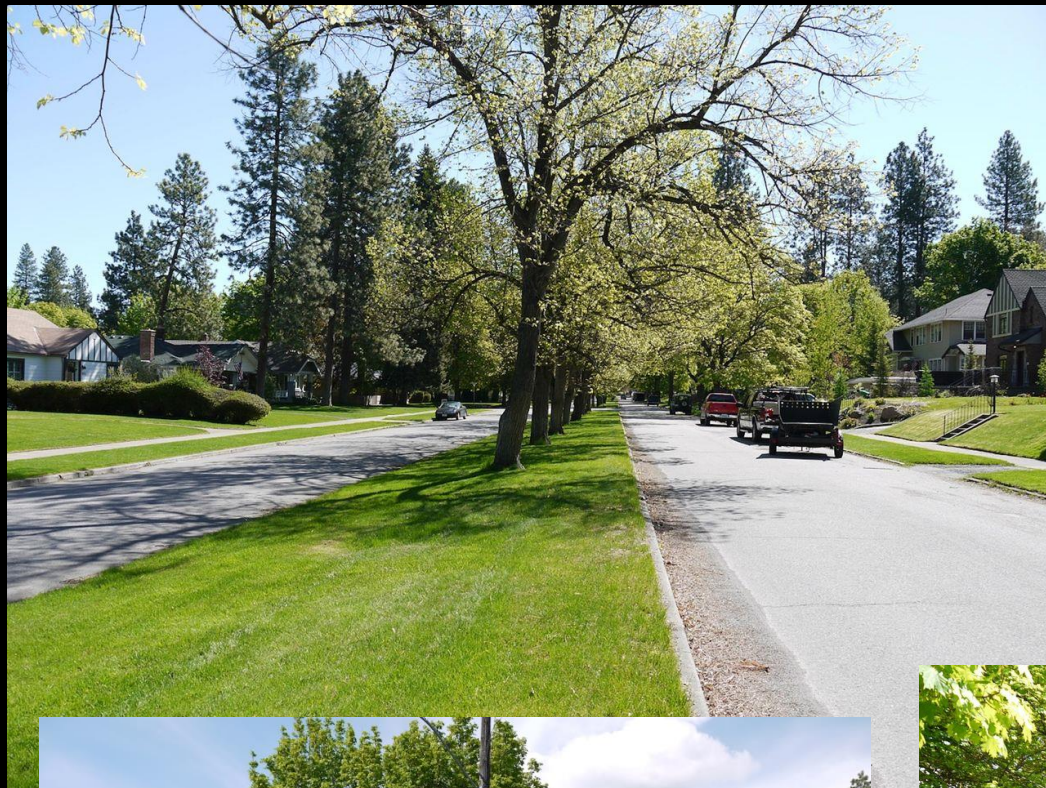
Manito Park, Manito Blvd & Adams Blvd

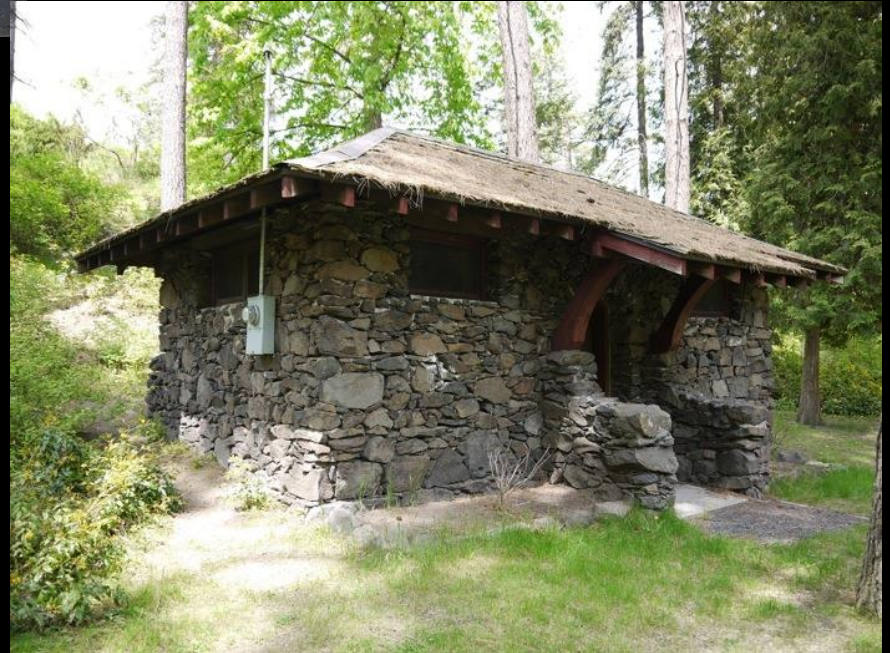
Resources:

29 contributing resources

13 non- contributing resources

Proposed Boundaries



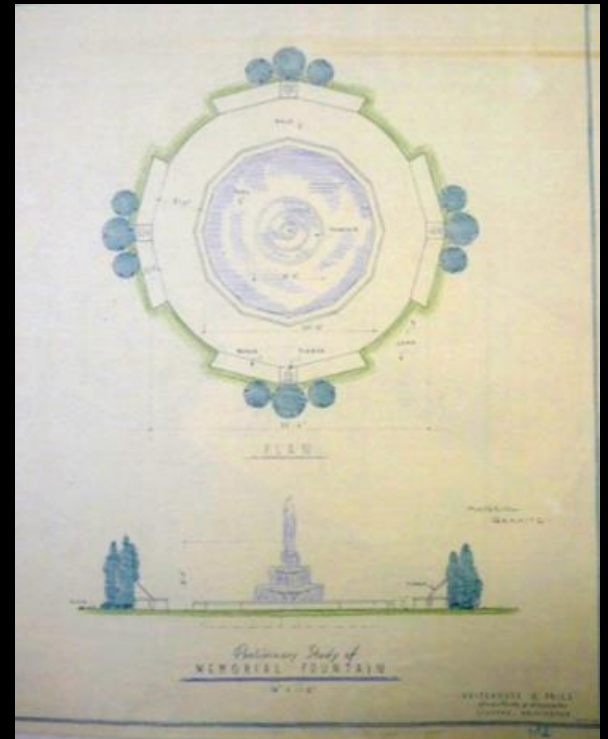






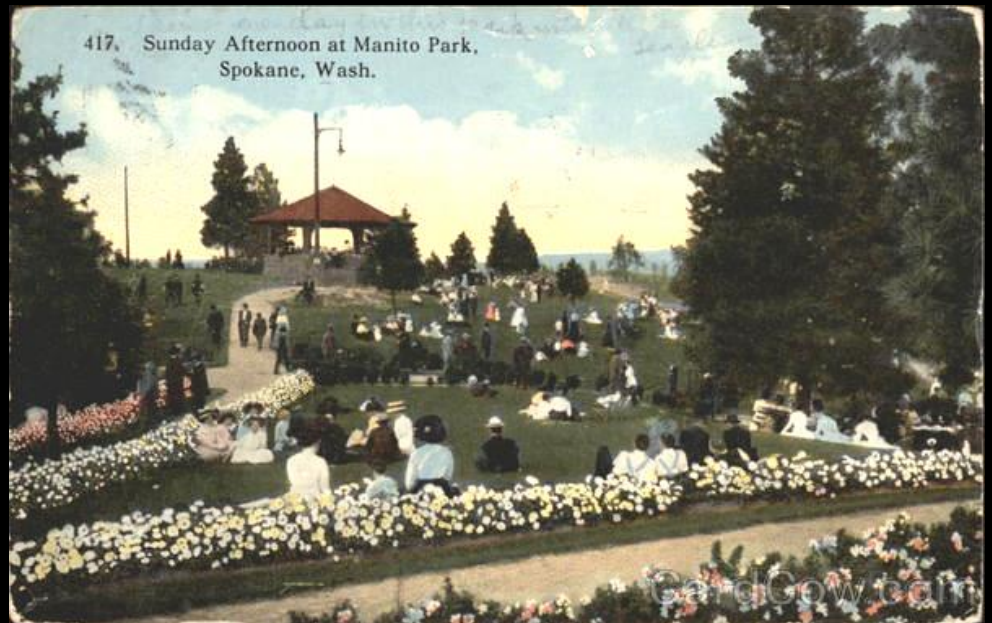
1465:—MUNICIPAL GREENHOUSES, DUNCAN GARDENS, MANITO PARK, SPOKANE, WASH.











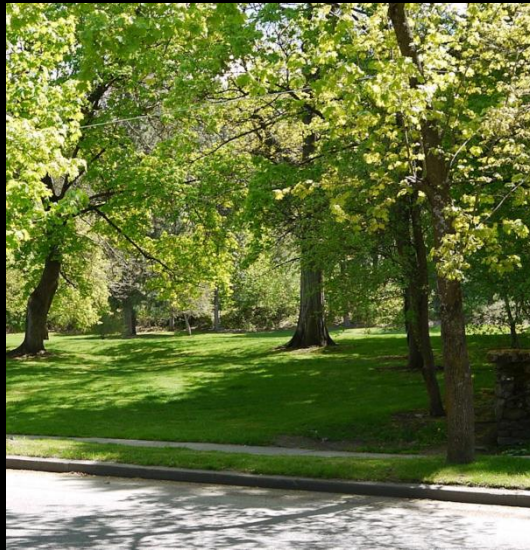




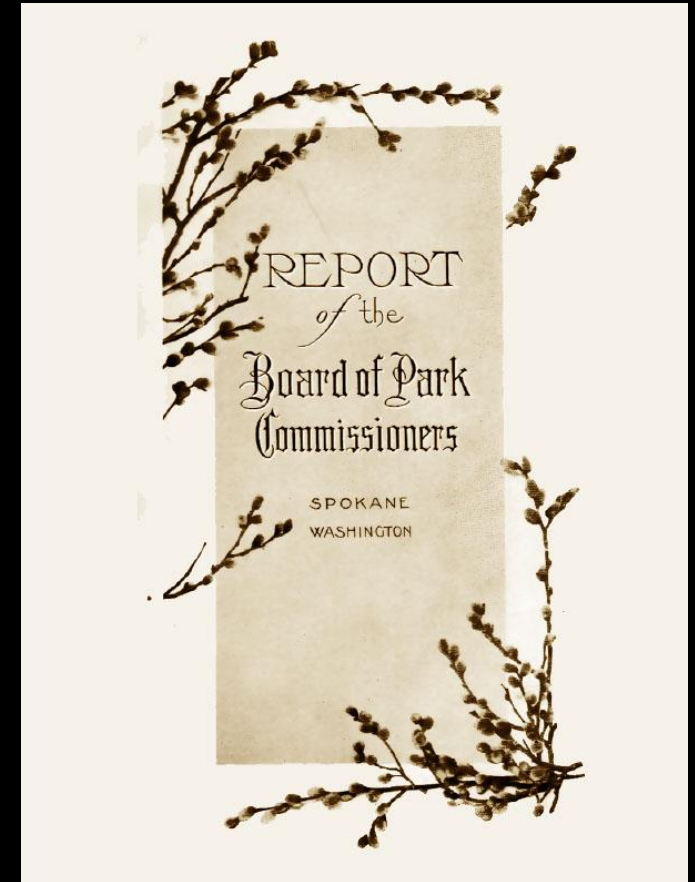
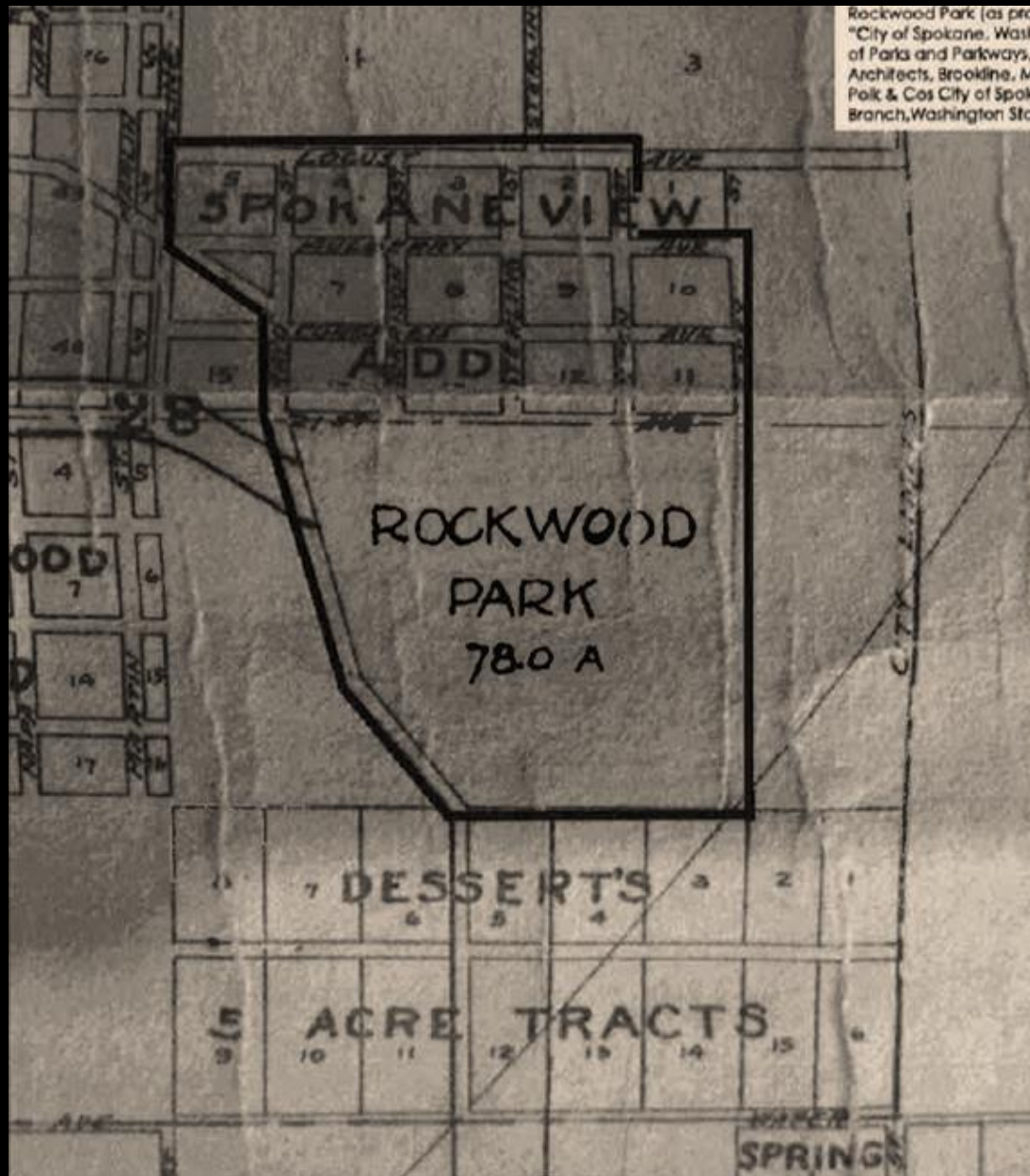




Lincoln Park







Olmsted Report
 Proposed – Rockwood Park
 - April 1908



Lincoln Park

Resources:

- 1) Pond
- 2) Pathways
- 3) Ball Field
- 4) Playground
- 5) Shelter / Fire Pit
- 6) Comfort Station
- 7) Utility Bldg
- 8) Stone Drinking Fountain

Proposed Boundaries

PLANT BIRCH TREE IN LINCOLN PARK FOR MRS. HUTTON

Plan to Honor Memory of
Local Suffrage Worker
When Delegation Comes.

Bearing the name, "May Arkwright Hutton," in honor of one of the earliest pioneers in the woman suffrage movement in Washington and Idaho, a white birch tree will be planted in Lincoln park, near the home of the late Mrs. Hutton, on May 4.

The planting and dedication will take place in the morning during the automobile tour of the members of the national suffrage union who will be in the city that day.

Plans for the ceremony will be in charge of Mrs. H. M. Prager of the Pioneer Suffrage association; Mrs. Frances Burchett, president of the Spokane Floral association, and Mrs. Charles T. Goodsell, chairman of the floral association tree planting committee.

It is planned to have Mrs. Harriet Stanton Hatch, daughter of the late Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who is a member of the suffrage party, make a short address.

"The planting and dedication will be under the direction of the Spokane Floral association and the Pioneer Suffrage society," said Mrs. Prager. "The ceremony is arranged as a tribute to the memory of the late Mrs. Hutton, who did so much for the cause of suffrage, and a fitting time to conduct the ceremony is during the visit of the members of the suffrage union."

"The matter has been taken up with the entertainment committee and with the park board, which has granted us permission to plant the tree in Lincoln park, the nearest public park to the Hutton home in Riverview."

Mrs. Hutton organized the first suffrage society in Spokane and was active in the movement throughout the northwest. She also was a member of the Spokane Floral association.



Picnickers -
1923



Wading Pool - c.1933



Playground - 1933





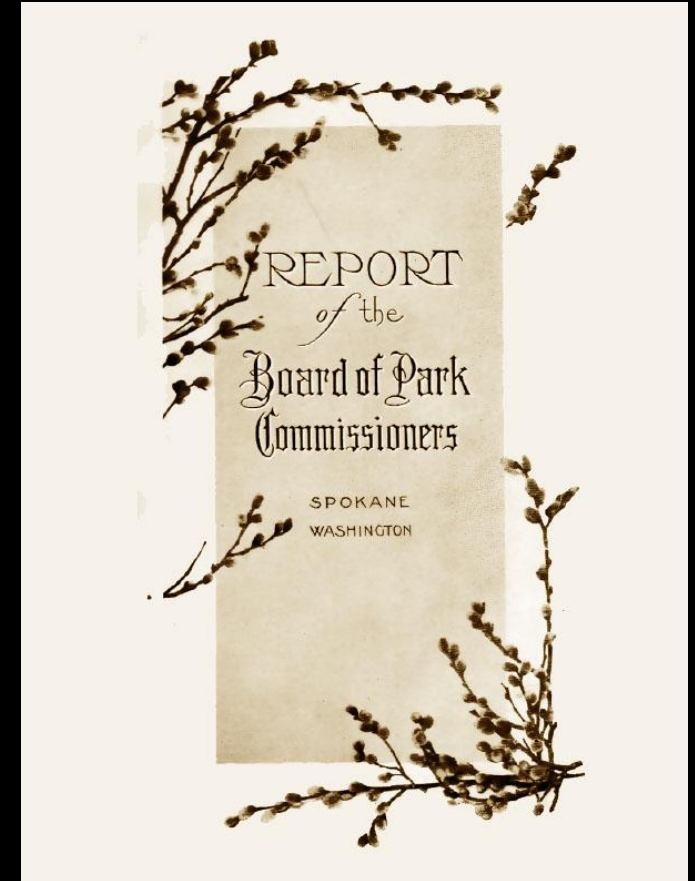


High Drive Park & Parkway, and Hangman Park

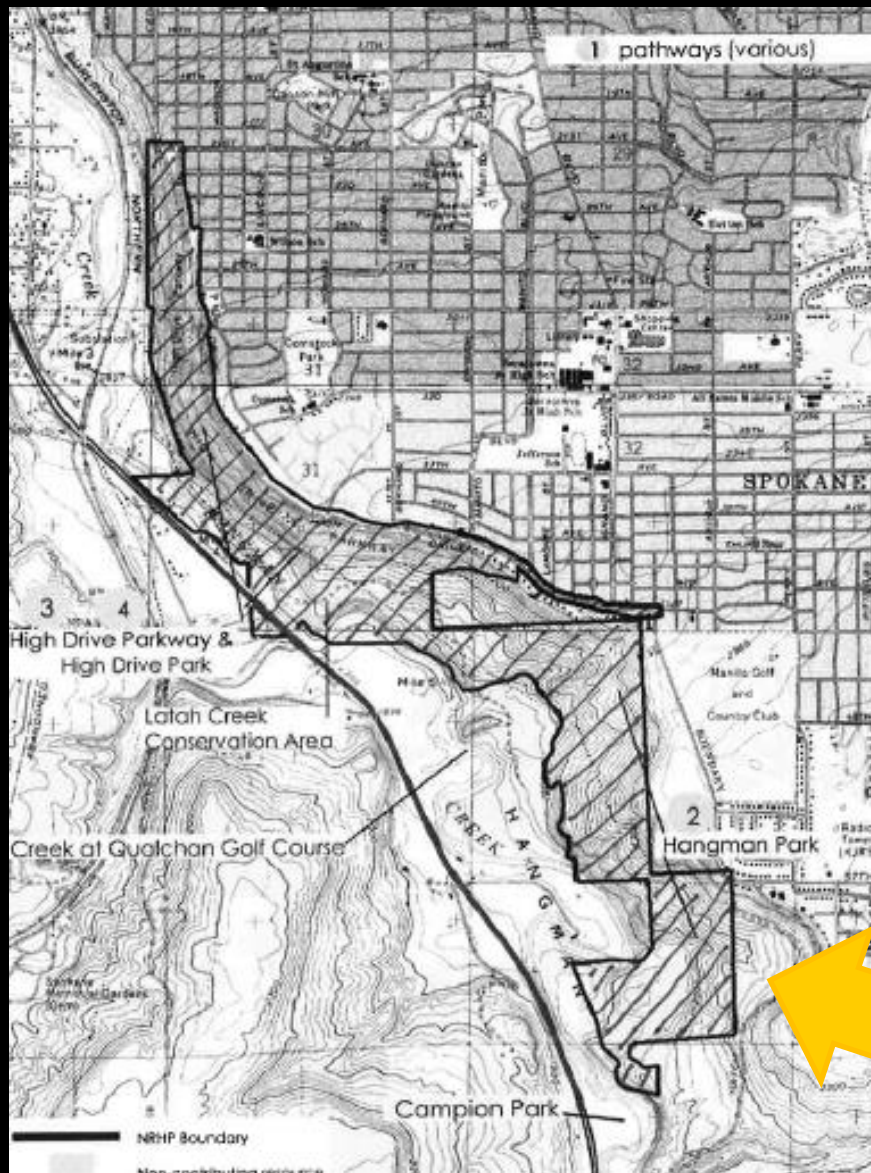








Olmsted Report
Proposed - Latah Park
- April 1908



High Drive Park & Parkway, and Hangman Park

Resources:

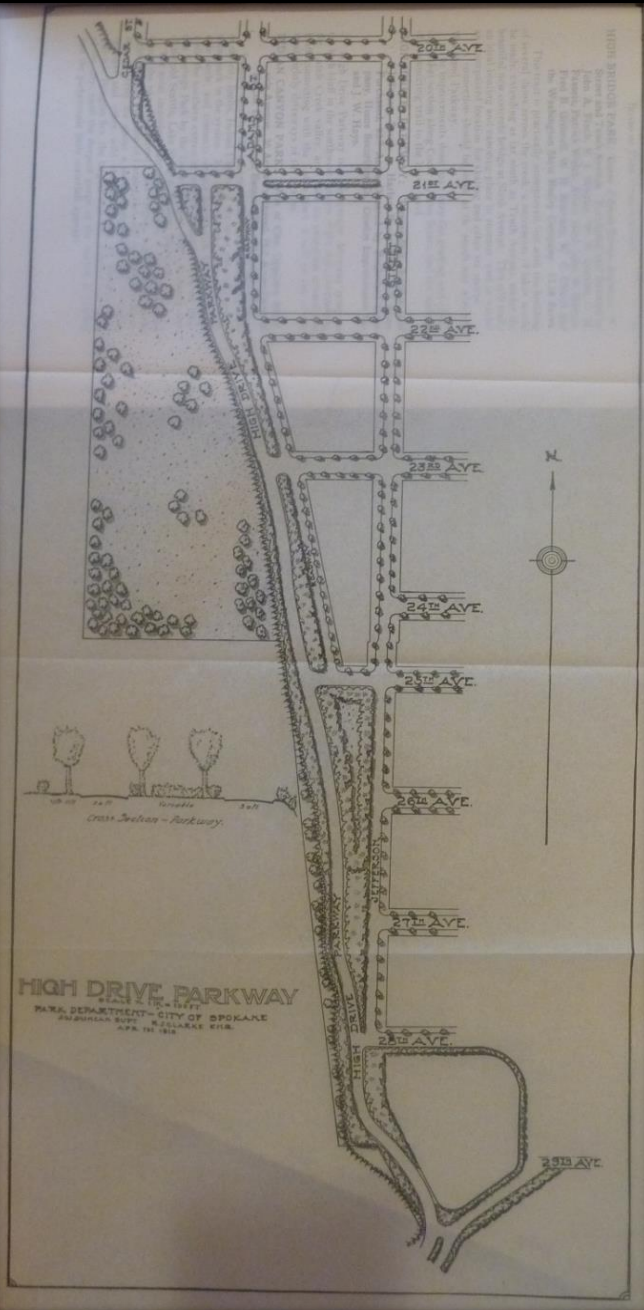
- 1) Pathways
- 2) Hangman Park
- 3) High Drive Parkway
- 4) High Drive

Proposed Boundaries

Plan of High Drive Parkway

Park Department, City of Spokane,
J. W. Duncan Park Supt,
R. J. Clarke Engineer

*Report of the Board of Park
Commissioners, Spokane, Washington,
1891-1913.*





Spokane Daily Chronicle - September 19, 1967



